

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/939,392

Examiner

Huyen X. Vo

Applicant(s)

ROBERGE ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 9/22/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-11, 13, and 15; now amended 1-13.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

W. R. YOUNG
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Steven G. Permelee on 11/29/2005. The application has been amended as follows:

Claims 12 and 14 have been cancelled.

Claim 15 has been amended to depend on claim 13.

Claims 1, 8 and 13 have been amended as follows:

1. A method for populating a main database from speech recognition output based on verbal utterances of a user, said method comprising:
 - a) developing a series of contexts, each context comprising a series of navigational commands for populating a selected series of data items of the main database, and each context represented by a context identifier;
 - b) creating a word-mapping database for each context, said word-mapping database containing a words drawn from narrative statements (written and oral)

- associated with the data items in selected context, as well as linkages between these words and the data items;
- c) identifying a selected context by comparing the context identifier of the selected context with speech recognition output generated based on a context-identifying verbal utterance of the user;
 - d) recording the selected data items within the selected context by mapping the speech recognition output generated based on utterances of the user to the data items in the main database using the word-mapping database for the selected context; and
 - e) repeating steps c) and d) until the user finishes entering data, thereby populating the main database.
8. A method for populating a main database from speech recognition output based on verbal utterances of a user, comprising:
- a) defining a workflow for populating a selected set of data items in the main database, each workflow providing custom knowledge comprising a series of navigational commands and a context identifier for associating spoken utterances with explicitly coded data relating to the workflows;
 - b) identifying the workflow being employed;
 - c) creating a word-mapping database for each workflow; and
 - d) populating the selected series of data items for the identified workflow using the series of navigational commands and comparing speech recognition

output generated based on the verbal utterances of the user to obtain words and explicitly coded data for populating the main database;

wherein the defined workflows use the context identifier to provide metrics for scoring the selected context's speech recognition output based on the context-identifying verbal utterance of the user.

13. A system for populating a main database from speech recognition output based on verbal utterances of the user, comprising:

a context identifier for establishing a workflow for information processing of a series of navigational commands for populating a selected series of data items in the main database;

a word-mapping database created for each context identifier comprising words of possible entries of the data items in the context;

a processor for comparing information from the context identifier with speech recognition output generated based on a context-identifying utterance of the user;

a memory device associated with the main database for populating the selected series of data items for the selected context of the context identifier using the series of navigational commands and the speech recognition output;

wherein processor identifies the selected context associated with the context identifier using metrics for comparing the context identifier with the speech recognition output for generating scores associated with the context-identifying verbal utterance of the user.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-11, 13 and 15 (now amended claims 1-13) are allowed over prior art of record. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Ryan (US 5809476) discloses a system for coding data, wherein the coding system is a computer program especially suited to analyzing text input to the computer by for example a keyboard, optical character recognition or voice recognition. The data to be coded may, for example, comprise information relating to an event, item or operation. In the preferred form of the invention, the input data is text describing a medical diagnosis and operation, which would be dictated or recorded by a surgeon subsequent to an operation being performed on a patient. The coding system of the present invention analyses each word or term of the medical information in conjunction with specialized and generalized dictionaries of words and terms, along with the relationships between individual words or terms. In this way, in addition to producing a compressed symbolic representation of the original information, which may later be interrogated or used for statistical analysis, the present invention is also capable of correcting or supplementing the original information (*referring to Ryan reference*). Ryan fails to specifically disclose the steps of developing a series of contexts, each context comprising a series of navigational commands for populating a selected series of data items of the main database, and each context represented by a context identifier; creating a word-mapping database for each context, said word-mapping database containing a words drawn from narrative statements (written and oral) associated with the data items in selected context, as well as linkages between these words and the data items;

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identifying a selected context by comparing the context identifier of the selected context with speech recognition output generated based on a context-identifying verbal utterance of the user; recording the selected data items within the selected context by mapping the speech recognition output generated based on utterances of the user to the data items in the main database using the word-mapping database for the selected context; and repeating steps c) and d) until the user finishes entering data, thereby populating the main database. Furthermore, it would have not been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify Ryan in order to obtain the claim invention. Therefore, claims 1-11, 13 and 15 (now amended claims 1-13) are allowed over prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Huyen X. Vo whose telephone number is 571-272-7631. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 9-5:30.

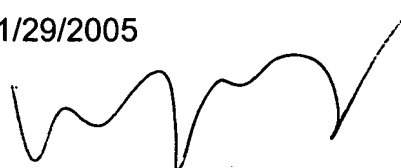
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wayne Young can be reached on 571-272-7582. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

HXV

11/29/2005

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. R. Young', with a stylized, wavy line extending from the end.

**W. R. YOUNG
PRIMARY EXAMINER**